

What is claimed is:

1. A frame having a variable depth for displaying an object, comprising:
a peripheral border unit including a front face having a channel extending
longitudinally therein, and a side face formed integrally with the front face;
5 a back panel;
a retainer tab for engaging an outer surface of the back panel; and
a fastener including a head for retention within the channel and an elongated shank
extending from the head, for adjustably engaging the retainer tab along the shank and
securing the back panel to the peripheral border unit.

10 2. The frame of claim 1, wherein:
the front face includes an outer surface and an inner surface, the channel being
located at the inner surface, the channel including lateral surfaces extending along the
channel;
15 the shank of the fastener is formed with screw threads, and the head is formed with
surfaces for contacting the lateral surfaces of the channel, whereby the fastener is secured
against rotation within the channel; and
further comprising a threaded nut for engaging the screw threads of the fastener
and securing the retainer tab in contact with the back panel.

20 3. The frame of claim 1, wherein:
the front face includes an outer surface and an inner surface, the channel being
located at the inner surface, the channel including lateral surfaces extending along the
channel;

the shank of the fastener is formed with screw threads, and the head is formed with surfaces for contacting the lateral surfaces of the channel, the fastener being secured against rotation within the channel and displaceable along the channel; and

further comprising a threaded nut for engaging the screw threads of the fastener and securing the retainer tab in contact with the back panel at adjustable positions along the peripheral border unit.

4. The frame of claim 1, wherein the front face further comprises:
a second channel extending along the peripheral border unit having an opening facing the back panel; and
a side panel for insertion in the second channel and extending from the front face toward the back panel to form a shadow box.

5. The frame of claim 1, wherein the peripheral border unit is formed in segments, each segment having a length extending along a side of the peripheral border unit, and wherein the front face of each segment further comprises:
a corner key having a first leg for engaging the channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging the channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said channel; and
a façade covering an outer surface of the front face of each segment, the corresponding façade engageably connected the segment by grooves.

6. The frame of claim 1, wherein the peripheral border unit is formed in segments, each segment having a length extending along a side of the peripheral border

unit, and wherein the front face of each segment further comprises a track channel, each track channel being in a plane aligned with the track channel of an adjacent segment; and

the peripheral border unit further comprises a corner key including a first leg for engaging the track channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said track channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging the track channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said track channel.

7. The frame of claim 1, wherein the peripheral border unit is formed in segments, each segment having a length extending along a side of the peripheral border unit, and wherein the side face of each segment further comprises a second track channel; and

the peripheral border unit further comprises a second corner key having a first leg for engaging the second track channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said second track channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging the second track channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said second track channel.

8. The frame of claim 1, wherein the peripheral border unit is formed in segments, each segment having a length extending along a side of the peripheral border unit, and wherein the side face of each segment further comprises a second track channel, each second track channel being in a plane that is substantially perpendicular to the second track channel of an adjacent segment; and

the peripheral border unit further comprises a corner key having a first leg for engaging the second track channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said second track channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for

engaging the second track channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said second track channel.

9. The frame of claim 1, wherein:

5 the front face includes an outer surface, an inner surface, and an edge having a recess extending along the inner surface for receiving a sheet of glazing within the recess.

10. A frame having a variable depth for displaying an object, comprising:

10 a peripheral border unit having adjacent segments being mutually connected, each segment including a front face, a channel and a side face formed integrally with the front face and disposed angularly with respect to the front face;

a corner key for connecting adjacent segments;

a back panel;

retainer tabs, each retainer tab for contacting an outer surface of the back panel;

15 and

fasteners, each fastener including a head for retention within the channel of a segment, and an elongated shank extending from the head for adjustably engaging the retainer tab along the shank to secure the back panel to the peripheral border unit.

20 11. The frame of claim 10, wherein:

each front face includes an outer surface and an inner surface, the channel being located at the inner surface, the channel including lateral surfaces extending from the inner surface and along the channel;

25 the shank of each fastener is formed with screw threads, and the head is formed with surfaces for contacting the lateral surfaces and securing the fastener against rotation; and

further comprising threaded nuts, each nut for engaging the screw threads of each fastener and securing one of the retainer tabs to the fastener and in contact with the back panel.

5 12. The frame of claim 11, wherein each segment further comprises:
a façade covering an outer surface of the segment's front face and the
corresponding facade slideably engaging grooves of the segment.

10 13. The frame of claim 11, wherein each front face further comprises:
a second channel located at the inner surface, having a length extending along the
peripheral border unit, a width bounded by lateral surfaces extending from the inner
surface, and a height extending from the inner surface to an opening facing the back
panel; and
side panels, each side panel for insertion in a corresponding second channel
15 between the lateral surfaces and extending from the inner surface of the front face toward
the back panel.

20 14. The frame of claim 11, wherein each segment has a length extending along
a side of the peripheral border unit, and wherein the corner key further comprises:
a first leg for engaging the channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the
length of said channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging
the channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said channel.

25 15. The frame of claim 11, wherein each segment has a length extending along
a side of the peripheral border unit, and wherein the front face of each segment further

comprises a track channel, each track channel being in a plane aligned with the track channel of an adjacent segment; and

the corner key includes a first leg for engaging the track channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said track channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging the track channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said track channel.

16. The frame of claim 11, wherein each segment has a length extending along a side of the peripheral border unit, and wherein the side face of each segment further comprises a second track channel; and

the frame further comprises a second corner key having a first leg for engaging the track channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said track second track channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging the second track channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said second track channel.

17. A frame having a variable depth for displaying an object, comprising:
a peripheral border unit having adjacent segments mutually connected, each segment including a front face having a channel being aligned with channels of adjacent segments and each segment having a pair of grooves;

a corner key having a first leg for engaging the channel of a first segment along at least a portion of the length of said channel, and a second leg directed angularly from the first leg for engaging the channel of a second segment along at least a portion of the length of said channel;

retainer tabs;

fasteners, each fastener including a head for retention within the channel, and an elongated shank extending from the head for adjustably engaging and securing the retainer tab to the peripheral border unit; and
a façade engaging the segment grooves.

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18. A frame having a variable depth for displaying an object, comprising:
a segmented peripheral border unit wherein adjacent segments are mutually connected, each segment having a front face including a first channel, and a second channel located at an inner surface of the front face and having an opening facing away from the front face for receiving a side panel extending from the inner surface of the front face, the first and second channels extending along each segment and aligned, respectively, with a first channel and a second channel of each adjacent segment;
retainer tabs; and

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fasteners, each fastener including a head for retention within the first channel, and an elongated shank extending from the head for adjustably engaging and securing the retainer tab to the segmented peripheral border unit.

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